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ABSTRACT

The Holland Land Company Manuscript Preservation Project in Reed Library, State University of New York, College at Fredonia is a grant-supported project concentrating on locating, assessing, and reproducing primary source material that relate to the activities of the Holland Land Company in the United States. The Holland Land Company collections are valuable records of early foreign and domestic investment companies that capitalized on land speculation. In addition, they contain useful materials that reflect the social, political, economic, and land use development on Holland Land Company territories from the 1790's well into the second half of the nineteenth century. They are important primary sources for research in history, political science, business, ecology, economics, anthropology, geography, biology, and other related fields. The purpose of this research guide is to aid students who wish to study the distribution of land, Indian affairs, and the history of regions and localities. Card catalog subject headings pertinent to these topics are listed. An annotated list of reference materials helps to put the Holland Land Company in a historical framework as it pertains to the general evolution of land history. Other sources deal more implicitly with the Company and with the regions in question. Examples of general county histories and other publications related to the Company's history are included. Materials available in manuscript and microfilm form are listed along with call numbers and names of relevant repositories. A selective list of repositories that house supplementary collections in New York State is provided. (GEA)

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RESEARCH GUIDE NO. 56:

THE ARCHIVES OF THE HOLLAND LAND COMPANY IN REED LIBRARY AND RELATED NEW YORK STATE COLLECTIONS

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RESEARCH GUIDE NO. 56

STATE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE AT FREDONIA
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THE ARCHIVES OF THE HOLLAND LAND COMPANY IN REED LIBRARY AND RELATED NEW YORK STATE COLLECTIONS

Introduction:

The use of manuscripts greatly enhances in-depth research in any discipline. Some original sources relating to a certain topic are self-contained and can be found in one place, while others are interdisciplinary and are scattered among several repositories. Generally, manuscript material is housed at special research centers and its use is restricted. However, micro-reproductions of many collections are available to potential users.

Microfilming manuscript collections is time-consuming and costly so funds are often sought by grant applications. The Holland Land Company Manuscript Preservation Project in Reed Library, SUNY, College at Fredonia is a grant-supported project. It concentrates on locating, assessing, and reproducing primary source material that relates to the activities of the Holland Land Company in the United States.

The Holland Land Company was a conglomerate of six Dutch banking houses. In the 1790's it purchased over five million acres of land in central and western New York and in northwestern Pennsylvania and sold it to homestead-seeking settlers until about 1840. The Project is also concerned with material that was generated by land speculators who bought large parcels from the Dutch and continued selling the land throughout the nineteenth century.

The most significant Holland Land Company collection is deposited in the Municipal Archives of Amsterdam in the Netherlands. In New York State, Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Ohio, various libraries and historical societies house either Holland Land Company documents or material that was generated in the land offices of agents who bought land from the Dutch. The ultimate aim of the Holland Land Company Project is to provide listings of all located material and to make the collections available on microfilm in Reed Library.

The Holland Land Company collections are valuable records of early foreign and domestic investment companies that capitalized on land speculation. In addition, the collections contain useful material that reflect the social, political, economic and land use development on Holland Land Company territories from the 1790's well into the second half of the nineteenth century.

Therefore, they are important primary sources for research in history, political science, business, ecology, economics, anthropology, geography, biology, and other related fields. However, the material is most often used for the study of regional or grassroots history. Therefore, the purpose of this RESEARCH GUIDE is to aid students who wish to study the distribution of land, Indian affairs, and the history of regions and localities.

To broaden the scope of this Guide, the following related Guides should also be consulted:

RESEARCH GUIDE NO. 8: **BASIC SOURCES OF INFORMATION IN AMERICAN HISTORY**

RESEARCH GUIDE NO. 53: **CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY: PAST AND PRESENT**

RESEARCH GUIDE NO. 55: **GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH AND THE HOLLAND LAND COMPANY RECORDS**

RESEARCH GUIDE NO. 45: **FAMILY HISTORY: BASIC RESEARCH METHOD**

CARD CATALOG:

Checking the card catalog is always the first step in any type of research. In Reed Library the Card Catalog is divided into two sections:

Author/Title Catalog
Subject Catalog

The search for pertinent material should start in the Subject Catalog, with the help of the Library of Congress Subject Headings (the two "Red Books.)

NOTE: Most proper names, and names of geographical units, such as bodies of water and names of municipalities, are not listed in the "Red Book". They should be looked up directly in the Subject Catalog. For instance:

CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY, N.Y.	-	HISTORY
		HISTORY, SOURCES
		MAPS
FREDONIA, N.Y.	-	CHURCHES
		HISTORY, ANECDOTES

The same pattern is to be used for other counties, cities, towns and villages that developed on Holland Land Company lands.

For a wider geographical concept, consider:

NEW YORK (STATE)	-	HISTORY - 1775-1865
NEW YORK (STATE)	-	HISTORY, LOCAL
UNITED STATES	-	HISTORY - 1783-1815
	-	HISTORY - WAR OF 1812
		- WAR OF 1812 - ERIE, LAKE, BATTLE OF 1813
	-	HISTORY - 1815-1861

Related, but not necessarily narrower subject areas will appear under headings like:

INDIANS OF NORTH AMERICA	-	HISTORY
	-	TREATIES
LAND SETTLEMENT	-	NEW YORK (STATE)
LAND TENURE	-	NEW YORK (STATE)
SURVEYING	-	UNITED STATES

On the other hand, more specific treatment can be found under subject headings such as:

HOLLAND LAND COMPANY		
HOLLAND LAND COMPANY	-	MAPS
HOLLAND PURCHASE		
IROQUOIS INDIANS		
SENECA INDIANS		
SENECA INDIANS	-	HISTORY

among other headings

The following portion of this Guide is divided into three major sections:

I. Reference Material
II. General Sources
III. Manuscript Collections

To maintain a manageable length, none of the sections contain comprehensive listings of material available for in-depth research.

I. REFERENCE MATERIAL

In this section the several listed sources help to put the Holland Land Company in an historical framework as it pertains to the general evolution of land history. Other items help locate material that deals more implicitly with the Company and with the regions in question.

Dictionary of American History; 8 volumes
Ref/E/174/D52/1976

This set provides material necessary for a wider historical framework into which the mosaics of regional history can be placed. Summaries of state-wide and national events such as the War of 1812, the construction of the Erie Canal, and the opening of westward migration help explain the impact severely felt on the Holland Purchase. Volume 8 contains a detailed index.

Guide to Historical Resources in Chautauqua County, N.Y., Repositories
Ref/CD/3407/C7/1982
Library has: Guides for other counties on the Holland Purchase are in the stacks in the CD/3407 area.

This guide is one example of several others that list manuscript and printed material available in regional repositories. When using the subject index in the individual guides, remember to check the names of more prominent employees in addition to the Holland Land Company. Checking names of other land companies that purchased land from the Dutch is also helpful.

Research Publications in New York State History
Ref/Z/1317/A67
Library has 1968-1972, 1976-date

This somewhat irregular bibliography lists a number of secondary source publications that relate to the Holland Land Company, its employees, and the regions they once owned.

Township Atlas of the United States
Ref/G/1201/F7/A5/1979

This unique reference source is helpful when maps of civil division townships are compared to townships that were designated by the rectangular survey system. These two distinctly different land divisions are particularly important in Western New York.

FOR OTHER USEFUL REFERENCE MATERIAL, CONSULT THE RELATED RESEARCH GUIDES.

II. GENERAL SOURCES

This section includes examples of general county histories and other publications that relate, either entirely or in part, to the history of the Holland Land Company.

Buffalo Historical Society: Publications; 34 volumes
F/129/B8/B88
Some volumes are in the general stacks, others are in the Archives and Local History Room.

This series was published during the first half of the twentieth century. Several volumes are devoted mainly to the Holland Land Company. Others contain reprints of journals and reminiscences by pioneers, and a variety of related reports. Some volumes have extensive correspondence between Holland Land Company agents, politicians, municipal officers, and settlers.

The following volumes are of vital importance for research:

Bingham, Robert N., ed. Reports of Joseph Ellicott, 2 vols.
WNY/F/129/B8/B88, v. 32-33

These two volumes contain survey-related correspondence and the comprehensive report of the grand survey of the Holland Purchase that was completed in November 1800. In addition, reprinted are the Batavia Land Office annual reports between 1801 and 1835. There was no report for 1821. These reports record the detailed account of Company activities and the development of western New York. Each volume has an index. Volume 33 has a comprehensive index.

Correspondence on the Holland Land Company and Canal Construction in Western New York
F/129/B8/B88, v. 14

In this volume, a large group of well-selected letters recreate the planning and the construction of the Erie Canal and the controversial placing of the terminal.

Evans, Paul D. The Holland Land Company
WNY/F/129/B8/B88, v. 28

This publication is the only extensive scholarly study of the Holland Land Company. It gives details on the formation of the Company, of its various land purchases in New York and in Pennsylvania, and on the management of the lands. It also analyzes problems inherent in foreign land speculation that eventually prompted the Company to sell out to domestic land developers.

Severance, Frank., ed. Pioneer Days
WNY/F/129/B8/B88, v. 26
Library also has a circulating copy.

This volume contains a variety of sketches including a short biography of Andrew and Joseph Ellicott. A sampling of letters between 1797 and 1816 from the Joseph Ellicott letter books is also included.

Other monographs include:

Cazenove, Theophile. Journal
WNY/F/138/C38, 1922

This translated version of the Journal reports on Cazenove's trip through Pennsylvania and New York State between October 28 and November 25, 1794. Cazenove was the first Agent General of the Holland Land Company, opened the Company's headquarters in Philadelphia, and completed the major land purchase transactions before he left America in 1800. The book has several maps and a detailed index.

Chazanof, William. Joseph Ellicott and the Holland Land Company
WNY/F/123/E394/C48
Library also has circulating copies.

This is mainly a biographical study of the Company's chief surveyor and resident agent of the Batavia Land Office between 1797-1821. It also paints a vivid picture of the general milieu of the times, and of the political power of Ellicott as well as of the foreign landowners.

History of Cattaraugus County, N.Y.
WNY/F/127/C4/E4/1879

Aside from being a typical county history, this source provides a more extensive coverage of the activities of the Holland Land Company in western New York. A table of contents and a name index serves as a key to this hefty volume.

The History of Oneida County
WNY/F/127/O5/H58, 1977

This historical account of a northern New York County was compiled for the commemoration of its bicentennial. The Holland Land Company held in the County about 80,000 acres, which included the present day Utica. Illustrations, maps and an index enhance the usefulness.

Lewis, Clifford. Devereux of the Leap
WNY/CS/71/D4895/1974

This is a genealogical history with a descriptive introduction of Nicholas Devereux's activities mainly in Utica where he lived. The management of his sizable western New York land holding, which he purchased from the Dutch in 1835 and continued selling in the Ellicottville Land Office, is also discussed. There are some maps and an index.

Lincklaen, John. Travels
WNY/F/123/L73, 1896

This is a detailed description of travels in Pennsylvania, New York State and Vermont during 1791 and 1792, shortly after which Lincklaen became the resident agent of the Cazenovia Establishment. An index and several maps are available.

Matthews, Catherine Van Cortlandt. Andrew Ellicott, His Life and Letters
WNY/F/106/E46, 1908

The subject of this book is the renowned surveyor brother of Joseph Ellicott. While he gained his fame for surveying nation-wide, he is known in this region for his pre-Holland Land Company surveys of the Niagara; the pre-emption line; and the New York-Pennsylvania border. He also surveyed for the Dutch in Pennsylvania.

The Sesquicentennial of Genesee County, 1802-1952
WNY/F/127/G19/A5, 1952

This is a typical homage, designed for the 150th anniversary of the County, known as the Mother of Counties of the Holland Land Purchase. Descriptions of the early years include the establishment of the Holland Land Office in Batavia and the divisions of the region to several counties. Included are several maps and illustrations.

Smith, Perry., ed. History of the City of Buffalo and Erie County, 2 volumes
WNY/F/127/E6/S6, 1884

The first volume is a chronological tracing of the earliest history of the County up to about 1880. The second volume concentrates on the historical development of Buffalo which was laid out by Holland Land Company surveyors.

Turner, Orsamus. **Pioneer History of the Holland Purchase of Western New York**
WNY/F/127/H7/T7/1849
Library also has the reprinted volume of 1974 with a name index.

Although this volume is based mostly on reminiscences by settlers, it provides a fairly realistic scene of the early years of the region. The table of contents serves as a general index.

Winter, Pieter J. van. **American Finance and Dutch Investment, 1780-1805 with a Prologue to 1840** by James Riley; 2 volumes
WNY/HJ/247/R54/1977

This is an extremely detailed survey of Dutch investment in the financially struggling country during the post-revolutionary period. The investment of the six members of the Holland Land Company are explored in chapter 9, and sporadically throughout the two volumes.

Young, Andrew. **History of Chautauqua County, N.Y.**
WNY/F/127/C7/Y6, 1875
Library also has the reprint of 1974 with a name index.

This is a rather straightforward county history based on extensive notes, letters and reminiscences that were collected by a history conscious county lawyer, E. T. Foote.

BESIDES THE LISTED PUBLICATIONS, A NUMBER OF ADDITIONAL SOURCES ARE AVAILABLE IN ROOM 35 AND IN THE STACKS.

III. MANUSCRIPT COLLECTIONS

Material listed in this section is either available in manuscript form at the cited repository or a microfilm version of it is deposited in Reed Library. The microfilm collections are located in the Microform Room under the given call number.

Archives of the Holland Land Company, 1789-1869
Microfilm/HD/195/H64/H6, 1984, 202 reels

This extensive collection contains investment records, land purchase negotiations, surveys, financial records, land sales ledgers with contracts and payments, deeds, warrants, patents and tax assessments. There are court records and related papers and a wealth of correspondence between the owners, land agents, bankers, legal representatives and the settlers. Much of the material is in English, although most of the earlier intercontinental correspondence is in either French or in Dutch.

The Archives also contains a valuable collection of maps, including field notes of the surveys, village and city layouts, regional and state maps, and maps of the United States. While the maps were microfilmed with the documents in black and white, they will also be reproduced on colored microfiche. Groups of maps are listed in the general Inventory of the Archives of the Holland Land Company. In addition, in the near future a separate descriptive Map Catalogue will be available.

Reel Number One of the Archives of the Holland Land Company contains an introduction to the Company and to the manuscript collection which is housed in the Municipal Archives of Amsterdam in the Netherlands. Additional comments pertain to the evolution and the process of the microfilming project. There are also bibliographic notes on collections located in the United States up to 1984. This reel also contains an annotated Inventory of the Archives of the Holland Land Company and a Microfilm Reel List. However, the reel does not include a copy of the Map Catalogue.

Pieterse, W. Wilhelmina. Inventory of the Archives of the Holland Land Company, 1789-1869
Ref/HD/195/H64/P532
Library has copies in the Microform Room and in the WNY collection in Room 35.

The Inventory serves as a general finding aid of groups of documents in the Archives of the Holland Land Company.

After a useful introduction of the organization and function of the Company, the Collection is divided into four major parts:

I. Archives of the Board of Directors in Amsterdam;
II. Archives of the Representatives in the U.S.A.;
III. Miscellaneous material;
IV. Appendix

Parts I and II are further divided by the subjects of documents, such as: documents of general nature; domestic matters; personnel; operation; finance and other topics. Within these groups further geographic subdivisions appear under which materials generated by the several individual land offices are listed. There are 932 enumerated document groups. A group can consist of only a few items, or as many as 30 volumes or hundreds of letters. The Inventory has several indexes of the cited names, subjects and places. However, the Archives of the Holland Land Company does not have a comprehensive index. Sectional indexes to correspondence and in certain other ledgers are available.

SELECTIVE LIST OF REPOSITORIES THAT HOUSE SUPPLEMENTARY COLLECTIONS IN NEW YORK STATE:

BUFFALO AND ERIE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, BUFFALO

The Society houses three major and several smaller collections. They were microfilmed by the Holland Land Company Project in 1987-88.
Microfilm/HD/195/H64/H669/ 24 reels

Holland Land Company Records, 1798-1839
This includes the Joseph Ellicott Correspondence in 26 volumes, and his memoranda in 2 volumes. Also included are articles of agreements and deeds of the early city of Buffalo and other miscellaneous papers.

Henry Glowacki Papers
The private collection of Henry Glowacki, attorney of Jacob LeRoy and Heman Redfield, who purchased land from the Holland Land Company in Allegany, Erie, Genesee, Niagara and Orleans Counties. The collection contains land transfer records, mortgage agreements with the Farmers' Loan and Trust Company, legal papers relating to certain Indian affairs and other items.

Charles W. Evans Collection
This collection contains correspondence between Holland Land Company employees, some surveys, and other miscellaneous material relating to the Peacock and Evans families.

Other smaller collections that were microfilmed include:

- Ira A. Blossom Letters
- Trumbull Cary Papers
- Journals of Andrew Ellicott
- Joseph Ellicott Papers (a small miscellaneous collection)
- Holland Land Company Papers from the Peter B. Porter Papers
- William Peacock's Notes of Survey of the Tonawanda Swamps
- Holland Land Company Papers from the Erie County Papers

The George Hunter Papers include extensive records of the Peacock, Evans and Ellicott families. This collection will not be microfilmed in the near future.

CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, WESTFIELD

E. T. Foote Papers, 1755-1877

This collection of manuscripts was compiled by a Jamestown lawyer and Chautauqua County judge, who had a long-held controversial interest in the Holland Land Company. It is comprised largely of letters and reminiscences, intended as a history of the County. Some correspondence, reports, and land records were copied at the Batavia and Chautauqua County Land Offices. Andrew Young used much of the material for his History of Chautauqua County. There is a card-index to the manuscripts at the Society.

Holland Land Company Miscellanea, 1808-1879

This collection includes original articles of agreements, deeds, land sales and financial records, and a number of field notes of surveys in Chautauqua County. Two volumes of land sales of the Samuel A. Brown Land Agency, a group of minor land speculators, is part of this collection.

DEPARTMENT OF MANUSCRIPTS AND UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES
JOHN M. OLIN LIBRARY AT CORNELL UNIVERSITY, ITHACA

The University Archives house a variety of pertinent land records. Of interest are:

Devereux Family Papers, 1825-1888
The collection consists of land transfer documents between the Holland Land Company and Nicholas Devereux who purchased large parcels in Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Erie, Wyoming and Allegany Counties during the mid-1830s and continued selling the land in the Ellicottville Land Office. Other records include land sale ledgers, mortgage and deed books, financial records, surveys, maps, and miscellaneous records. Land related correspondence spans the years between 1825-1855.

Nicholas Devereux Account Books, 1833-1891
This collection has six volumes of land ledgers, deed books and financial records mostly of land sales at the Ellicottville Land Office. One volume lists lands in Herkimer and Oneida Counties.

Nicholas Devereux Land Records, 1843-1897
There are four volumes of land sales, deeds and financial records from the Ellicottville Land Office.

The Farmers' Loan and Trust Company Records, 1829-1866
This collection contains land transfer documents and mortgage records from the Trust Company for lands held by Jacob LeRoy and Heman Redfield. There are also 3 volumes of land tables, some deeds, statements, receipts, correspondence and miscellaneous papers.

The above listed collections are to be microfilmed in 1988.

Farmers' Loan and Trust Company Correspondence, 1832-1854
This collection contains hundreds of letters between the mortgage providers; the owners and employees of the lands; and prospective buyers. Among other prominent names, those of Henry Seymour, R. C. Cornell, Dow D. Williamson, R. K. Delafield, Heman Redfield, Washington Hunt, John Lowber, and Staley N. Clarke occur often. The manuscript volumes are deposited at the Archives of Citibank in New York City. Cornell University microfilmed the set. There is a name index.
Microfilm/HD/195/H64/F3, 5 reels

THE GENESEE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY LIBRARY IN THE HOLLAND LAND OFFICE MUSEUM IN BATAVIA

Holland Land Company Records, 1801-1841
This collection contains mostly ledgers for land sold in Ranges 1-9 on the Holland Purchase. The ledgers were started by the Holland Land Company and were continued by the LeRoy and Redfield Land Offices. This collection includes a set of plat maps from the lower townships in Ranges 1-9. The maps were not microfilmed.

Farmers' Loan and Trust Company Records, 1838-late 1860s
Includes 26 volumes of land sales, payments, mortgage records, and deeds for transactions conducted in the LeRoy and Redfield Land Offices in Batavia and Buffalo.

Trumbull Cary Papers
It consists of over 600 items of correspondence and early business papers that are not connected with his purchase of Holland Land Company lands. This collection will be microfilmed in 1988 with the more pertinent Trumbull Cary Papers deposited at the Buffalo and Erie County Historical Society.

Triangle Tract Deed Books, 1817-1839
Records over 800 deeds of land in Monroe County owned by Herman LeRoy, William Bayard and James McEvers who were the American business representatives of the six Dutch Banking Houses.

These collections, with the noted exception, were microfilmed by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (The Mormons) Microfilm/HD/195/H64/H66, 18 reels

LORENZO HISTORIC SITE ARCHIVES, CAZENOVIA

The Archives house approximately 50,000 items that relate either directly to the Holland Land Company or to the families of the two major company employees, Jan Lincklaen and Samuel S. Forman.

The Lincklaen and Ledyard Family Papers, 1783-1983
This collection contains the majority of land related documents in the Archives. There are over 100 ledgers recording land sales in the Cazenovia Establishment first from 1793 to 1816 by Lincklaen as a company agent, then from 1817 to 1880 as owner of the land. After Lincklaen's death in 1822 his stepson, Jonathan Ledyard, managed the land office. In addition, over 5,000 "articles of agreements", individual land contracts with settlers, have been preserved. Some letters and letter copybooks and other documents make this rich collection invaluable.

Samuel S. Forman Papers, 1760-1930
The Holland Land Company related portion of this collection dates back to the 1790s. Over 50 ledgers offer detailed documentation on mercantile activities in the Cazenovia Establishment where Forman was a Holland Land Company store manager. It is presumed that in the early 1800s Forman bought the store.

Parts of these two collections have been microfilmed by Syracuse University and by the New York Public Library, respectively. Many additions were made since, and the collections have been reorganized. Eventually a comprehensive microfilm edition will be necessary.

NEW YORK STATE ARCHIVES, ALBANY

The Archives house a large group of ledgers and the original land transfer records between Robert Morris and representatives of the Holland Land Company. There are also survey records and some maps that were submitted to the Secretary of the State by the Holland Land Company as stipulated by the Act of April 30, 1839. *The State Archives will microfilm the entire collection by 1990. The Field Notes have already been microfilmed.*

The Holland Land Company Records, 1792-1857
This collection consists of over 100 volumes of land sale ledgers and deed books of the Holland Purchase, some of which were continued by the LeRoy and Redfield Land Offices.

The survey records in this collection include:

Field Notes of the Grand Survey of the Holland Purchase in Ranges 1-15, 1797-1800 69 notebooks
Microfilm/HD/195/H64/H6592, 2 reels

Field Notes of the Survey of Township Lines on the Holland Purchase in Ranges 1-15, 1797-1800, 16 volumes
Microfilm/HD/195/H64/H6594, 3 reels

Field Notes of the Range, Township and Lot Lines on the Holland Purchase in Ranges 1-15, 1800-1819, 662 numbered notebooks (23 are missing). There is an itemized list.

This set is not microfilmed.

The Archives has the most valuable collection of Holland Land Company related maps in the United States. Among them are several atlases of Township maps which include lands purchased in certain Townships by various land speculators, such as Washington Hunt, Pardon C. Sherman, Daniel C. Chandlers and others.

ONEIDA COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, UTICA

The Society Library has partial records of the purchases, surveys, maps and land sales of the several tracts in Oneida County that were purchased by the Holland Land Company and later sold to other speculators.

Included are the:

- Abraham Varick Papers, 1797-1839
- Adgate Patent Papers 1798-1852
- Charles A. Mann Papers, 1834-1857
- Oodhoudt Patent Records, 1795-1831
- Service Patent Records, 1769-1848

PATTERSON LIBRARY, WESTFIELD

The two major collections in this repository complement one another and thus record land sales from 1801 to about 1870 in Chautauqua County.

Holland Land Company Records, 1801-1836
This collection includes over 40 land ledgers for each Township in Ranges 10-15. There are also about 175 Field Notes and a valuable plat map for each Township of the County.

Chautauqua Land Office Records, 1836- ca. 1870
This collection comprises over 100 volumes of land sales, mortgage, deed and other financial records. In addition, there are over eight cubic feet of documents that pertain to the transfer of land from the Holland Land Company to the new owners, and negotiations with the American Life Insurance and Trust Company, the mortgage provider. Among the correspondence are valuable letters by William Henry Seward, George W. Patterson and other Land Office employees. Several sets of township maps are also available.

Part of this collection has been microfilmed on 16 mm film by the Preservation Office of Chautauqua County.
Microfilm/WNY/HD/195/H64/H67

REED LIBRARY, SUNY, COLLEGE AT FREDONIA

Holland Land Company Records, 1806-1863
This collection contains over 70 ledgers for lands sold first by the Holland Land Company and later by the Devereux Land Company in the Ellicottville Land Office in Cattaraugus County. The Land Office kept separate sales and mortgage records for several individuals who purchased larger tracts for resale. Such persons were George F. Tallman, Thomas Suffern, Joseph Kernochan and David E. Evans, among others.
Microfilm/HD/195/H64/H68 23 reels

Most volumes were microfilmed by Cornell University. Others will be microfilmed in 1988.

In addition, the following repositories, among others, have Holland Land Company related documents:

Buffalo and Erie County Public Library
Erie County Court House - Clerk's Office
Harvard University - Baker Library
New York Historical Society
New York Public Library
Orleans County Court House
Syracuse University
University of Rochester

Lists of holdings of all of the above listed collections are available at the Holland Land Company Project Office in Reed Library. The lists describe in more specific detail the volume and nature of the available documents, the time period they cover and the locality they pertain to.

Reed Library is in the process of procuring secondary sources that deal in some detail with the Holland Land Company, its employees and with the domestic speculators who purchased land from the Dutch and continued selling it to settlers.

F. Safran
August 1988

FS:gmp